

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (previously presented): A manufacturing method of iron silicide powder, comprising the steps of:

reducing iron oxide with hydrogen to prepare iron powder,
in a first heating step, heating the iron powder and Si powder in a non-oxidizing atmosphere to prepare synthetic powder containing FeSi as its primary component, and
after said first heating step, adding and mixing Si powder to the synthetic powder containing FeSi as its primary component and heating this during a second heating step in a non-oxidizing atmosphere to obtain a fine powder containing FeSi₂ as its primary component and having a crystal structure that is substantially a ζ_a phase or that has a primary phase that is a ζ_a phase.

Claims 10-25 (canceled).